MR. V. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Tiruvalla*): ഈ നിയമനം ആക്ഠറ ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളവരുടെ സീനിയോറിറ്റി അനുസരിച്ചായിരിയ്ക്കുമോ ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) Ordinarily it must be so.

Difficulties of the Ryots of Tovala and Agastisvaram in the matter of Irrigation.

48. MR. D. FRANCIS (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware of the difficulties experienced by the ryots of the Tovala and Agastisvaram taluks on account of the insufficient capacity of the Kodayar reservoir;

(*b*) whether they are aware that the indiscriminate auction sale of tank-beds is also a contributory cause of insufficiency of water for irrigation; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether any steps have been taken by the Government to obviate the difficulties?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Government are aware that, in years of deficient rainfall, the ryots of Nanjanad and Edanad may experience some difficulty for want of sufficient water for irrigation.

(*b*) There has been no indiscriminate sale of tank-beds within the area commanded by the Kodayar Project. Tank-beds were sold and are being sold only after the need for their retention is examined by the Revenue and P. W. D. Officers in each case. For the future, the sale of tank-beds has been further restricted by the recent amendment to Rule 38 of the *Puduval Rules* published at page 801 of Part I of the Government Gazette, dated the 24th July 1928/9th Karkatakam 1103. The rule lays down that the registration of tank-beds should be jealously scrutinised with reference to considerations of storage, distribution, flood-moderation and irrigation, as well as communal uses and that no tank-beds should be brought under registry unless such registry is certified to be unobjectionable by a P. W. D. Officer not below the rank of an Executive Engineer and by the Dewan Peishkar of the Division after they have made a personal inspection in each case.

(*c*) This is engaging the attention of the Public Works Department.

MR. D. FRANCIS (*Nominated*): Will the member be pleased to state why the turn system in the channel is adopted even when there is water in the reservoir?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): What I wish to know is what is the supplementary question that the member wants to be answered?

MR. D. FRANCIS (*Nominated*): Is the member aware that the lands fed by tank water are safe and that the lands fed by the channel water rather fail?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Supply of water may fail in the tank also when there is not sufficient rainfall. It is the absence of adequate rain in proper times that affects irrigation tanks.

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MR. D. FRANCIS (*Nominated*) I say that even if there is sufficient rain the turn system is adopted. I want to know what the reason is.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): As regards the policy of the Government in the disposal of tank-beds no useful tank-bed has been sold. Tank beds are sold only after careful examination.

Midwives from the Depressed Classes.

49. **MR. K. MADHAVAN** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of midwives trained from among the depressed classes during the last three years (1100-1102); and

(*b*) the number among them who are now employed by the Government?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Five.

(*b*) All the five are now in service.

MR. K. MADHAVAN (*Nominated*): தாழ்ந்த வகுப்பிலிருந்து எத்தனை பேரை மிட் ஒய்ப் (midwife) களாஸில் எடுத்து தேற்சிபெற செய்திருக்கிறார்களென்றதற்கு, 5-பேரை எடுத்து தேற்சிபெற செய்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்று பதில் கிடைத்திருக்கிறது. ஆனால் எந்தெந்த ஸ்தலங்களில் அவர்களை நியமித்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்று அறிவித்தால் நலமென்று விரும்புகிறேன்.

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): That information is not available now.

Restoration of Irrigation Tanks in South Travancore.

50. **MR. D. C. JOSEPH** (*Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware of the strong feeling in South Travancore that the Kodayar Reservoir is not sufficient for the existing wet cultivation because of the frequent failure of the monsoon which has become very acute this time (Karkatakam 1103); and

(*b*) whether they propose to take any steps for the restoration of the irrigation tanks?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The member is referred to the answer to part (*a*) of interpellation No. 48.

(*b*) Important tanks have been and are being taken up for improvement and repair which are carried out as needed either under the maintenance grant or under special estimate.

MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*): Are the Government aware of continued hardships experienced by the people of South Travancore for want of water supply ever since the construction of the Kodayar Reservoir?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): It is only for the last two years that there has been an inadequate rainfall and consequently shortage of water.

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